Merck Sharp and Dhome) obtained any stay from the Delhi High Court in respect to the reduction of prices of Dexamethasone and its salts as well as proposed reduction in the prices of formulations based on these drugs ;

(b) if so, when was the stay granted and on what condition ;

(c) whether it is a fact that company gave any undertakings based on the condition of stay ;

(d) if so, what are the details of the undertaking;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the company was given hearing in regard to the prices of these drugs before the decision of the High Court ; and

(f) if so, what were the prices arrived at for these drugs based on the hearing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) Yer, Sir.

(b) to (d) Delhi High Court on an undertaking given by the company to maintain status quo on the price of Dexamethasone Pure and Dexamethasone 21—Phosphate granted an interim stay *vide* order dated 25-8-1981. The Delhi High Court granted final stay on 25-11-1981 wherein it was provided that in case the petition is dismissed and the rule is discharged, the company shall within 8 weeks of the dismissal of the petition by the court deposit in the court the difference in the prices of formulations in respect of the items in question for being ultimately deposited in the Drug Prices Equalisation Account.

(e) and (f) The company was given hearing in regard to the prices of these drugs but no final decision could be taken at that time since the matter was *sub-judice*.

Assessment of over-charged amounts by Special Team

2472. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the special team appointed by his Ministry has not yet submitted its report in respect of amount overcharged on Dexamethasone and its salts ;

(b) if so, when was the team appointed and by when it would submit its reports ;

(c) whether the team has any nominee of BICP ; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons for delay in submission of the report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Special Team was constituted in September, 1987 to determine the amount recoverable from all the companies involved in the Supreme Court. The Special Team included originally a representative from the BICP at the level of Deputy Director (Cost). The Officer subsequently has been promoted as Joint Director (Cost) and working in the Ministry of Defence. The Special Team is expected to submit its Report shortly.